

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-38 are pending in this Application, of which Claim 1 is the sole independent claim. Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 13-28 and 30-38 stand rejected.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that Claims 5, 6, 9-12 and 29 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, those claims have been rewritten as such. Acceptance is respectfully requested.

**Rejection of Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 13-28 and 30-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 13-28 and 30-38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kabra et al. (US Patent No. 6,507,834) in view of Konno et al. (US Patent No. 6,078,955). Claim 1 is being cancelled.

Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 13-15, 17, 18, 24-26, 28, 32, 34, 37 and 38 are being amended to depend from Claim 5, which is now allowable as currently amended. As a result, the § 103 rejection of Claims 2-4, 7, 8, 13-28 and 30-38 is believed to be overcome, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

**Information Disclosure Statement**

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the IDS is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all pending claims (Claims 2-38) are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By



---

Benjamin J. Sparrow

Registration No. 62,259

Telephone: (978) 341-0036

Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

Date:

3/6/09